NASA Days at Moody Gardens offer chance to avoid crowds

Moody Gardens' new Discovery Pyramid will open to the public June 7, but civil service and contractor workers will get an opportunity for a "sneak preview" May 29-31.

The coupon at right, redeemable at Moody Gardens ticket outlets, will allow employees and their families to visit two attractions for the price of one during NASA Days at Moody Gardens. The coupons will be good through Dec. 1, but the NASA weekend will be the only opportunity to avoid the public crowds as well.

JSC employees also are invited to attend the grand opening ceremonies for the Discovery Pyramid from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, June 7.

Among the special attractions that day will be a chance to meet the Astronaut Candidate Class of 1996 from 1-3 p.m. and win a drawing for an astronaut-autographed souvenir, a special tour of JSC facilities and items supplied by United Space Alliance.

There will be NASA technology demonstrations and exhibits inside the Moody Gardens Visitor Center Garden Lobby, plus a one-sixth scale inflatable model of a space shuttle and a scale rocket engine firing demonstration provided courtesy of NASA's Stennis Space Center.

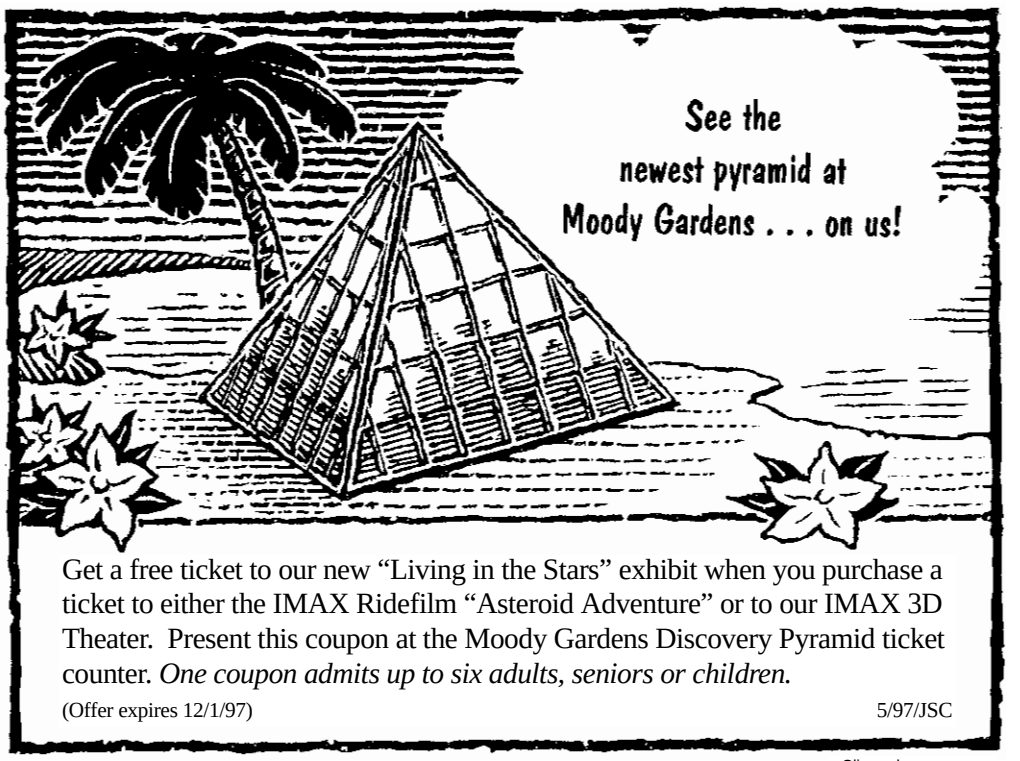
NASA engineers will demonstrate how astronauts dress for space walks, how laptop trainers can be deployed in the field, and how robot technology is being used in space exploration. Scientists will explain the recent discovery of possible ancient life on Mars and the goals of the upcoming space shuttle Neurolab mission.

Musical entertainment will be provided by members of the Southern Cross and Los Almos bands and Marshall Space Flight Center's Tina Swindell.

In addition, several JSC employee clubs will provide demonstrations and exhibits of model rocketry, model airplanes and astronomy. As the skies darken, the astronomy groups will point their telescopes toward the heavens and offer visitors a chance to glimpse the stars.

Moody Gardens will feature a team of professional kite flyers who will raise a variety of kites over Oleander Bowl.

In addition, there will be space games for children from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. They'll include a moonwalk, shooting stars bean bag toss, face painting and an arts and crafts area where children will be invited to build a "Universe in a Bottle." Throughout the day, the Moody Gardens animal therapy department will bring out animals for children to see and, in some cases, touch.



Get a free ticket to our new "Living in the Stars" exhibit when you purchase a ticket to either the IMAX Ridefilm "Asteroid Adventure" or to our IMAX 3D Theater. Present this coupon at the Moody Gardens Discovery Pyramid ticket counter. *One coupon admits up to six adults, seniors or children.*

(Offer expires 12/1/97) 5/97/JSC

Clip and save coupon

Photo 97E01233 by Mark Sowa

Members of the JSC consulting team review the final plan for second floor exhibits in the new Moody Gardens Discovery Pyramid, which can be seen in the background. From left are David Krenek, Wayne Ordway, Bob Luke, Al Kelly, Louis Parker, Helen Lane, Lynn Buquo, Frank Hughes and Juan Galvez. The Discovery Pyramid will feature an IMAX ride film on the first floor, and 6,000 square feet of exhibits on the second floor that were designed by Southwest Museum Services with expert consultation from the JSC team.

JSC Photo S97-06336 by Steve Candler

JSC Photo by Wayne Ordway

Above: Bill Carson, right, shows special features of a rotating Mars half globe to Frank Hughes, far left, and Wayne Ordway in JSC's Bldg. 9 model shop. Carson and John Muro blew the bubble out of 1/4-inch Plexiglass and used clear epoxy to add craters and other distinctive Martian features. The burnt orange globe, which will be lighted from the inside, will be one of the attractions of the upstair exhibit area. Left: The pyramid under construction.